

proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO TOM BRENNAN

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, today, I wish to honor Tom Brennan—a longtime reporter and editor at my hometown paper, the Mansfield News Journal. This week, Tom will retire from the News Journal after a 43-year career in journalism.

Tom and I are both natives of Richland County, OH. He has been with the News Journal since 1972 in various roles, so we have known each other for pretty much our entire careers.

I have always had a bit of a soft spot for journalists—after all, I married one.

And as with any journalist, Tom and I haven't always seen eye-to-eye on every issue, but I have always respected his integrity and the important service he provides to the Mansfield community.

He has always been fair and civic minded and has taken seriously one of his most important jobs: holding politicians like me accountable.

Through his leadership in the newsroom, Tom has not only demonstrated a deep passion for serving our community, he has also been a coach and mentor to so many men and women who have worked at the News Journal for the last 40 years. He has helped them to become accomplished writers and reporters and has helped ensure that the News Journal will continue his legacy of thoughtful, quality journalism.

Over the past four decades, Tom has faced a changing news industry, and he has always responded with the best interest of his writers and the community in mind. The evolution of this business has put too many local papers out of business.

But Tom and his team have been able to keep the News Journal in print, while reaching new audiences online, and that is a great accomplishment.

Tom's impressive career in journalism isn't the only way he has served the Mansfield community. He has been active in many local organizations, including the Mansfield Children's Theater Foundation, the local chamber of commerce, the Richland County Economic Development Corporation, the North Central State College Foundation, and the Mansfield Military Affairs Committee.

While he will be missed by many, I have little doubt that the end of his career will not be the end of his community engagement.

I join his readers and newsroom staff in wishing him the best for a fulfilling retirement worthy of his honorable career.●

REMEMBERING LEON GORMAN

• Mr. KING. Mr. President, today we solemnly remember a dear friend of Maine, the late Leon Gorman. Leon was president of L.L. Bean and a committed environmentalist, but more than that, he was a wonderful man and gifted leader. On September 3, 2015, Leon passed away at the age of 80. Throughout his life, he devoted endless attention and time to the betterment of Maine, and he will be greatly missed.

Leon graduated cum laude from Bowdoin College before serving in the Navy for 3 years. When he stepped in to fill his grandfather's shoes as president of L.L. Bean in 1967, Leon took the company from a \$4.75 million corporation to \$1 billion global label. In his memoir, Leon writes that his proudest accomplishment was growing his grandfather's company from less than 100 workers into one that has employed tens of thousands of Mainers over several decades. Even with this impressive growth, Leon remained committed to the company's values and stayed true to the traditions and spirit of the State he loved. He was a true man of Maine in every way.

Leon was an extremely successful businessman, but also an active philanthropist. He donated generously to the National Park Foundation and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, as well as to numerous other environmental groups and State parks. He was also a very active Bowdoin alumnus, giving generously to the college and serving as both an overseer and trustee.

During his time as chairman of L.L. Bean, Leon focused the company's charitable giving program on outdoor recreation and conservation. Not only did Leon personally donate to environmental groups, but under his leadership, L.L. Bean, Inc., has contributed millions to conservation groups and has provided funding for education, health and human services, and the arts throughout Maine. Leon will be fondly remembered for his unmatched generosity of heart, unwavering commitment to the people of our State, and his deep and abiding love for all that is Maine.

Through his tireless efforts, Leon affected countless lives and contributed greatly to the betterment of Maine. He will be remembered for his firm devotion to protecting and enjoying nature and his dedication to the communities of our State. The State of Maine has lost a man of true integrity, and he will be greatly missed. I would like to join the people of Maine in remembering Leon Gorman and thanking him for his immeasurable contributions to our State and the Nation.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:08 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 538. An act to facilitate the development of energy on Indian lands by reducing Federal regulations that impede tribal development of Indian lands, and for other purposes.

H.R. 702. An act to adapt to changing crude oil market conditions.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6913 and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China: Mrs. BLACK of Tennessee.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 451 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128) and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Speaker appoints the following member on the part of the House of Representatives to the National Council on Disability: Lt. Colonel Daniel M. Gade, Ph.D. of New Windsor, New York.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 538. An act to facilitate the development of energy on Indian lands by reducing Federal regulations that impede tribal development of Indian lands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 702. An act to adapt to changing crude oil market conditions; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2165. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to permanently authorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

S. 2169. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to extend the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

S. 2181. A bill to provide guidance and priorities for Federal Government obligations in the event that the debt limit is reached.

S. 2182. A bill to cut, cap, and balance the Federal budget.

S. 2183. A bill to reauthorize and reform the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ISAKSON, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 1203. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the processing by the Department of Veterans Affairs of claims for benefits under laws administered by the

Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-153).

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 1573. A bill to establish regional weather forecast offices, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-154).

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1808. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a Northern Border threat analysis, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-155).

By Mr. ISAKSON, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with amendments:

S. 1082. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the removal or demotion of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs based on performance or misconduct, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 2181. A bill to provide guidance and priorities for Federal Government obligations in the event that the debt limit is reached; read the first time.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 2182. A bill to cut, cap, and balance the Federal budget; read the first time.

By Mr. KIRK (for himself, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. DONNELLY, Ms. AYOTTE, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 2183. A bill to reauthorize and reform the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and for other purposes; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. UDALL):

S. Res. 288. A resolution commemorating October 22, 2015, as the 50th anniversary of the enactment of the Highway Beautification Act of 1965; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. TOOMEY):

S. Res. 289. A resolution designating the week beginning on October 18, 2015, as "National Chemistry Week"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 352

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 352, a bill to amend section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an additional religious exemption from the individual health coverage mandate, and for other purposes.

S. 356

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr.

SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 356, a bill to improve the provisions relating to the privacy of electronic communications.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to reauthorize the farm to school program, and for other purposes.

S. 579

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 579, a bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to strengthen the independence of the Inspectors General, and for other purposes.

S. 746

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 746, a bill to provide for the establishment of a Commission to Accelerate the End of Breast Cancer.

S. 885

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 885, a bill to direct the Architect of the Capitol to place in the United States Capitol a chair honoring American Prisoners of War/Missing in Action.

S. 928

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 928, a bill to reauthorize the World Trade Center Health Program and the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 960

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 960, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make improvements in the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program, and to provide for Social Security benefit protection.

S. 1375

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1375, a bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States.

S. 1407

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1407, a bill to promote the development of renewable energy on public land, and for other purposes.

S. 1562

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Vermont

(Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1562, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 1651

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1651, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 1784

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1784, a bill to require the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to be appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

S. 1822

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1822, a bill to take certain Federal land located in Tuolumne County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians, and for other purposes.

S. 1831

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1831, a bill to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 1876

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1876, a bill to rename the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking of the Department of State the Bureau to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons and to provide for an Assistant Secretary to head such Bureau, and for other purposes.

S. 1882

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1882, a bill to support the sustainable recovery and rebuilding of Nepal following the recent, devastating earthquakes near Kathmandu.

S. 1893

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1893, a bill to reauthorize and improve programs related to mental health and substance use disorders.

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1893, supra.

S. 2002

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were